

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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Military Installations in Kazanluk

1. In early 1954 the following military units were stationed in the town of Kazanluk:

- a. One regiment of Air Force troops;
- b. One unit of antiaircraft artillery;
- c. One infantry battalion;
- d. One armored unit;
- e. One antitank unit;
- f. One communications battalion; and
- g. One light artillery battalion.

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All the above units with the exception of the Air Force unit are attached to the 23 Infantry Regiment at Shipka.¹

Mobilization in Bulgaria

2. During the last two weeks of October 1953 a partial mobilization of reserve troops aged 54, 55, and 56 was effected in the Kazanluk area. These men assisted at demonstrations of the new Soviet weapons which the present Bulgarian Army is using and they were instructed in tactics which would be useful in guarding bridges, railroads, depots, and strategic communications centers behind the front in case of war.

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3. In 1953 a trial general mobilization was carried out in the Burgas area. As soon as the men reached their mobilization points they were sent home again.

Communist Party members

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STATE	X	ARMY	EV	X	NAVY	X	AIR	X	FBI		AEC						
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in the villages were each personally responsible for 10 reserve soldiers and were obliged to see that the men in their charge reached the local city hall with no more than a two hours delay after the mobilization was decreed. From these assembly points the soldiers were taken to various barracks in the area. As there had been no previous announcement of this mobilization, the whole country side thought that war had broken out or was imminent. This gave the Communist Party an opportunity of observing the morale of the population and to determine whether there would be any attempts at paralyzing communications or acts of sabotage.

 Comment: Latest available information indicates that the 23
"Makedonski" Rifle Regiment is located in Blagoevgrad (formerly Stanke Dimitrov).

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